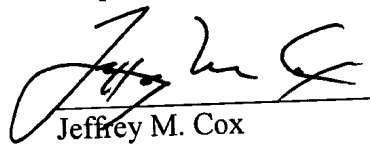


REMARKS

The Examiner is again thanked for her careful review of the present patent application. Nonetheless, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has completely misconstrued the teachings of U.S. patent 6,190,591. The '591 patent is directed towards the encapsulation and embedding of water soluble materials. The starch that is used in connection with the encapsulation is a water insoluble starch. The '591 patent teaches away from soluble starches, and the combination with the Rose patent is not appropriate and does not lead to the present invention. In light of the foregoing, the applicants have requested an interview with Examiner Fontaine to further explain the difference between the reference and the present patent application. We look forward to the interview.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey M. Cox
Reg. No. 50,695

Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.
10 S. Wacker Drive
Suite 3000
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Phone: 312-463-5000
Fax: 312-463-5001